

more remote, but I think it advisable to lay out the first township bordering on the beach, and thence extend to the interior, as I consider it of great importance to have the whole settlement connected, that we may have good roads from one end to the other. With very little trouble and expense we can have the best roads, surpassed by none in America; a thing very uncommon in African settlements.

The present productions of our territory are cassada, rice, yams, jantias, plantain, banana, sweet potatoes, sugar cane, egg plant, behia, some excellent varieties of the pea; Guinea and Malagetta pepper; many varieties of the prune and fig. These are all produced and cultivated by the natives in great abundance; and to them may be added all the garden and field vegetables, as beans, peas, turnips, Indian corn, squashes, beets, carrots, parsnips, cabbages, onions, melons, lettuce, cucumbers and tomatoes. These are all now growing in almost every garden on the Cape, and more luxuriantly than I ever witnessed in any part of the world. I have long since, (two weeks at least) had my table supplied with summer squashes, beans, cucumbers and melons, from our own gardens, and but three months have expired since we first broke ground.

As it regards animal food we are equally well supplied. There is no part of the coast which furnishes such beef, and I never before saw so fine in any tropical country, nor any more fat, even in the Boston market. All British merchantmen, ships of war, and Spanish and French slavers, have, time out of mind, been in the habit of calling here for beef and kroomen. I should judge that there might be one thousand bullocks (for they call all neat cattle, *bullocks*, a cow is a woman bullock) belonging to this town. Sheep and goats are equally abundant, as also the muscovy duck and fowls. They have wild game, such as wild bush hogs, and some variety of the deer, which are all so plentiful as to be well worth the while of spending a morning occasionally in the bush. I never tasted better venison, but the pork is very tough, although much esteemed by those who are accustomed to it, even more so than the domesticated pig. The natives make no use of any animal except for eating. They milk neither goats nor cows; no care is taken of them at all. How they would answer our purpose for yoking, hauling timber, or other materials, or for milking, I am unable to say, but doubtless they would be equally useful with the cattle in the United States, or on the Spanish Main, where they work them excessively hard. We need horses and asses here very much; no doubt but they would thrive extremely well; (my own jack having gained much since leaving Messurado,) and we should be enabled to transport all timber and merchandise with the same ease and celerity as in the United States. The want of good roads, and animals of draught and burden has been a great hinderance to the growth and prosperity of the colony at Cape Mesurado, and could not be obviated there, the face of the country not admitting of good roads, without great expense. Nothing is so prejudicial to agriculture as the water communication, or rather the want of other communication than native canoes. The banks of most of our rivers and creeks, in Africa, are covered with mangroves, and cannot be cultivated to the water's edge; and in most places the elevated land cannot be approached from the water. consequent-